

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 10, 13-14, 16-17, and 27-48 remain in this application. Claims 10, 13 and 16 have been amended. Claims 1-9, 11-12, 15, 18-26 and 49-56 have been canceled.

1. Drawings

Formal drawings (28 sheets) are included with the Letter to the Draftsperson submitted herewith. Examiner is respectfully requested to indicate the acceptability of the drawings in the next office communication.

2. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank Examiner for the indication that claims 27-48 are allowable. Applicants also thank Examiner for the indication that claims 10, 13, 16 and 17 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Indeed claims 10, 13 and 16 have been redrafted in independent form including the limitations of the base and intervening claims. Accordingly, claims 10, 13 and 16 are now allowable as drafted. Claims 14 and 17 which depend from deemed allowable claims 13 and 17 are also allowable, as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

3. Conclusion

Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of record, Applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of pending claims 10, 13-14, 16-17 and 27-48 and a prompt Notice of Allowance thereon.

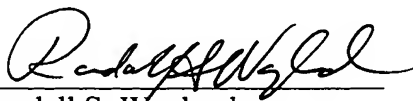
Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this Response timely. Should Applicant be in error, Applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Randall S. Wayland at 607-974-0463.

Respectfully submitted,

CORNING INCORPORATED

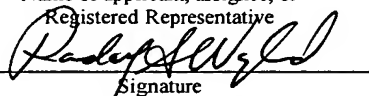
Date: 12-17-03


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